

THE PUBLIC FORUM

BACKS UP MAYOR-ELECT. —

Graham Taylor is angry. He is sore. In his article in Saturday's Daily News he says in speaking of the mayor-elect: "But, there is neither luck nor management in his proposition, trust the policeman on the beat to give a dollar where it is most needed."

It probably is not the scheme that Mr. Taylor condemns, but the horror of some reformer losing a dollar, or anybody being entrusted with a dollar except a so-called reformer.

To me, the mayor-elect's proposition is the best and most practical thing yet suggested to help the needy—outside of state supervision of the poor and needy who cannot work, and employment for those who can work. It shows the mayor-elect's practical sense and warm heart and the difference between him and the cold, calculating "reformers."

I know from long experience that such a dollar, as Mayor-elect Thompson proposes, will be of more benefit to some poor person in time of need than \$1,000 would be to them in the hands of some "reformers," or \$10,000 in the hands of the United Charities.

The needy dollar, or the dollar in need, is like "first aid to the injured" when a person is bleeding to death. The doctor on the spot saves a life, like the dollar in need, and sometimes saves a soul.

The doctor miles away, where he cannot be reached, is like the dollar in the hands of the United Charities, hard to get, and before you can get it a life is gone, a soul before its God. A life that could be saved by a needy dollar in the hands of a policeman, and lost through the red tape of organized charity in the hands of so-called reformers.

For the information of Mr. Taylor and others I would say that many a dollar is spent by policemen on their beats in nickels and dimes to the

needy, and it might surprise some "reformers" to know that for two years as lieutenant at Desplaines station it cost me monthly from \$5 to \$15 in nickels, dimes and dollars to the needy, the stranded and the unfortunate—Jack Malloy of your staff will vouch for the truth of this statement—and yet some people think that a needy dollar given to a policeman to distribute in time of need is a dollar lost. It's a dollar lost to the "reformer." In conclusion I'll say that Mayor Thompson's proposition is great, that along with being a big man he has a big heart, and the name "Big Bill" fits him nicely.—M. J. Gallery, Police Lieutenant.

POOL HALLS.—Being a reader of your Day Book since the first day it was published in Chicago, and knowing that you are a believer in equity I want to voice my sentiments regarding pool halls.

Are all poolroom owners to blame for the crimes that are committed in Chicago by the so-called habitués of poolrooms?

There are thousands of young men like myself that frequent these places, but they still maintain their moral standard in the community. As soon as a crime is committed the so-called reformers place the blame on the poolrooms. If it were possible to take the statistics of young men in Chicago that frequent these places you can rest assured that you would find 99 per cent of them are young men who work every day and have never had any trouble with any one.

There are many other reasons for crimes being committed by those imbecile degenerates than that of frequenting a pool hall.

I have been a frequenter of pool halls for the last 12 years, still I work every day and have never entertained any thoughts of committing any crime because I happen to go to a pool hall.

Don't condemn the pool halls because it is a coincidence that the